

# NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kathy Dolinar  
(760) 767-5391

Effective November 24, 2004

## Restrictions Imposed at Ocotillo Wells SVRA

OCOTILLO WELLS -- Effective November 24, State Park Rangers will rigorously enforce a ban on fires and the consumption of alcoholic beverages outside of camping areas at Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area, California State Park officials announced today.

In addition, officials said, Blow Sand Hill, Devil's Slide and Shell Reef will be closed to camping.

"We are stepping up our law enforcement efforts in response to the large number of people who insist on doing the wrong thing and are coming to the Park to party, and not to ride," said Superintendent Kathy Dolinar. She said the culprits are drinking, building large fires, and are unruly.

Not only is it illegal, but this behavior is also very disturbing to the many families and others who come to Ocotillo Wells SVRA for what it was intended and that is the pursuit of recreational opportunities, Dolinar said. "But this type of unwarranted behavior is going to end," she promised.

Dolinar said she has the support of many off-highway vehicle user groups who are in favor of the increased efforts to curb the illegal activities.

She said a large number of State Park and local law enforcement personnel will be on duty at the Park over the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday weekend to ensure that there is law and order.

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